

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

"A GENTLEMAN DOES NOT MOTOR ABOUT AFTER DARK" JOSEPH LUCAS



Official Publication of the English Motoring Club of Mississippi

May 2017

On the web at www.msemc.org

Volume 31



This 'n That

By Charlie Durning

April was a busy month. **Bonnie Menapace** has a report from the DSAROC/MSEMC rally. It was quite an adventure.

Several of our members made it down to Euro-Fest Natchez. **Mike Marsh** has comments later in the newsletter.

Another small group attended the show in **Pensacola** and walked away with recognition for a car well presented. **Bro Gene** has provided a report on Pensacola in this month's OSU.

And finally, there is a report about the unauthorized **AR2017** travel to the twisty roads in Arkansas. In all, April was a good month for enjoying our LBC's.

Thanks to **Bonnie Menapace** for providing this photo that we are using for the background for this month's newsletter!

Terry Travato found this interesting link about the new MG

<https://cleantechnica.com/2017/04/22/electric-mg-e-motion-concept-spell-return-british-car-industry/>



Membership News

By Stephen Turner

Please join me in welcoming three new members into the English Motor-
ing Club.

Welcome to **Steve Kaminer**. He owns a 1969 Triumph TR-6, 1968 TR-250,
and an Austin-Healey Bugeye.

Welcome **Erich Connell** who has owned several MGB's over the years,
but is currently on the hunt for another.

Hugh B. Jones, Jr. is the newest member. Welcome Hugh! Over the
years he has owned an MGA and a couple of Austin Healey Sprites, but
currently owns a Mazda Miata.

A Note from the President

John Turbeville



My neighbor, Lonnie Carlton, had his 1950 MG TD out for a drive on Saturday, May 6th. He's replaced the carbs with a beautiful Weber setup on a custom intake that he had powder coated.

Other mods under the hood include a custom oil breather catch can for separating blow by gasses from the valve cover. He's also covered the seats in beautiful beige leather and replaced the top in matching beige canvas. In addition to all these upgrades, he's replaced the tires with wide white walls.



2017 Natchez Euro Fest

April 8th - Oh What a Day!

by Mike Marsh

The 2017 Natchez Euro Fest is in the book, and what a chapter it made! The perfect "10" weather, beautiful field of autos and motorcycles, coupled with a lot of very nice folks made for an outstanding event. Thanks to all who participated, worked as volunteers, and worked as a group to get the ball rolling back in 2016!

We are already making plans for next year's event which will be on April 7, 2018. Shortly we will have an exciting announcement dealing with a special group's involvement in the event which will continue to raise the bar.

With an attitude of trying to make each Euro Fest better than the last, I ask for your help with comments, especially with issues that you may have encountered that you would like to see corrected. Sometimes there is a reason, but often not and the situation can be corrected with your help.

David Bailey Aston Martin DB 7-Mayor's TRavel Award

Gene Johnston -1973 MGB GT-Outstanding In Class

Congratulations to David and Gene!

AR2017 - An Unauthorized Adventure

By Charlie Durning

This year nine brave souls headed to the wilds of Arkansas amid the impending rain, hail, and winds. We survived! Not only did we survive, but we had a blast. The best part of the entire adventure was spending man time with friends.

When we departed from the Beagle Bagel the sky was cloudy but was in no way threatening. The drive up US49W and through the Delta was, in fact a pleasant drive. We didn't hit any weather until we were well into in Arkansas. Then the sky let loose. Thank heavens for Rain-X. The covered garage at the Arlington was sure inviting when we arrived. Our friend **Blake** was there to greet us and had made arrangements for sheltered parking. Thank you Blake.

By morning most of the rain had cleared. After an early breakfast, **Pres John** had made arrangements for us to visit the private collection of **John Hollansworth** in the town of Hot Springs Village. Hot Springs Village is a huge private community that required a special pass to enter. Once again Pres John had handled that detail. It was a pleasant 15 minute drive to the collection. We had intended to spend about an hour. Well that didn't work out. The collection was so fascinating we lost track of time. In the end it was time well spent.

After the visit we were off for a 10 hour drive to Mountain Home for the next night's stay. Normal folks would take 4 hours but we decided to have fun along the way with a lunch stop at the Cliff House. Our plan was to stay for 2 nights in Mountain Home. Unfortunately, the weather predictions for the area called for rain, damaging winds, and hail. After one night's stay we made the wise decision to cancel the second night and moved south.

For the 8 hour drive south to Hot Springs we encountered wind, rain, good eats at the Orak General Store, and some fabulous roads. The two nights in Hot Springs was a good plan since our cars would be sheltered from the passing storms. The stormy weather pretty much cleared out by morning each day.

For our last day in Arkansas we ventured to Petit Jean Park for a visit to the MOTAA museum and then lunch at the lodge. While there we decided to head to the overlook to see the waterfall in the park. Well that short hike ended up being a bit too long. While at the end of the trail the clouds opened up and we got drenched. At that point we decided to cut the day short and headed back to Hot Springs for the night.

The drive home was uneventful with clear skies and dry roads. We did encounter some rain around Yazoo City. Though we all had a good time driving about 1450 miles we were all glad to be home. AR 2018 cannot come fast enough.

I want to thank **Dr. Word Johnston** for taking a huge amount pf pics during our journey. His pics will be featured in a slideshow next month.

Editoret Donna should have a slideshow and short video ready for next month's newsletter.





More AR2017 Pics



2017 DSAROC/MSEMC Rally

by Bonnie Menapace

The 12th annual Deep South Alfa Romeo Club/English Motoring Club of Mississippi fun rally was held on Saturday, April 1, 2017. And we could not have asked for better weather! As with all of **Andy's** fun rallies, the winners from the last year helped plan this year's rally. **Corey Poole and Wes Jones** won the 2016 rally, which was based around Enterprise MS. This year's rally required a ton of work and it would not have happened without **Wes and Corey**.

Andy decided early on in the planning that he wanted the participants to take a ferry across a river. That led him to the Duty Ferry over the Ouachita River in Louisiana. Once he found Duty Ferry, he found LA Highway 126 between Aimwell LA and LA Highway 8. **Highway 126 is EPIC!** In one section we counted approximately 40 tight turns with nice elevation changes. It is such a fun road to drive that Andy used it in both legs of the rally.

The rally started in the parking lot of the Natchez Visitors' Reception Center at the Mississippi River Bridge in Natchez MS. We had entrants from the two sponsor clubs and a few friends. The first leg took participants from Natchez, through several towns and into the countryside. They enjoyed Hwy 126 and ultimately found the ferry. After the ferry, they wound up in Columbia LA for lunch. The owner of the Watermark Saloon provided gumbo for lunch for us and everyone enjoyed scenic Columbia.

The second leg started in Columbia and traveled through more of the Louisiana countryside. While on Hwy 126 for the second time, Andy challenged the participants to count the curves. The rally ended on the patio at Los Cabos restaurant in Jonesville, LA.

Once all the points were tallied, **Brittaney and Tim Spruill won**. Andy's parents, **Mike and Franie Menapace** were second. And **John Turbeville, Kaye Thames and Beverly Ferrell** were third.

OUACHITA RIVER STEAMBOAT ERA 1819 - 1927

Columbia, Louisiana — Established 1827.
Only settlement between Monroe and
Black River towns noted for its port and
steamboat captains.

AVAILABLE LIST OF CAPTAINS ON THE OUACHITA RIVER BEFORE THE CIVIL WAR

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Angomer | Baptiste Filhol | J. A. Paulley |
| E. E. Allen | Goodwin | — Ramsie |
| — Austin | William T. Gray | — Raspieller |
| — Bailey | — Gwartzley | Thomas W. Reea |
| T. B. Banks | — Hall | John Urban Rhoads |
| A. Bessy | — Harrison | J. W. Scott |
| — Besteron | Frank Hicks | — C. Shute |
| Charles J. Brenham | Jerry Hicks | Louis Strapp |
| W. C. Briggs | A. B. Hopkins | H. E. Stewart |
| — Buffington | — Hurd | William Switzer |
| John M. Cannon | J. C. Joffretion | Albert Thomas |
| J. W. Carlton | Franklin Aseling | — Thompson |
| — Clark | M. Leason | John W. Tobin |
| J. W. Coalton | R. E. Kimball | — Van Sickle |
| — Cook | G. H. Kirk | John P. Walker |
| William Cooper | J. W. Kirk | — Watkins |
| — Darr | John Kouns | J. N. White |
| B. A. Dickinson | R. S. Livingston | S. Williams |
| — Dillon | E. B. McKeen | M. A. Wilson |
| A. J. Dye | O. A. Miller | — Wire |
| Jameson Eagar | J. W. Moore | — Withers |
| — Edwards | Len Moore | — Woodland |
| C. W. Ewing | — Nansarrow | |
| | Jean Baptiste Navarre | |

AVAILABLE LIST OF CAPTAINS ON THE OUACHITA RIVER AFTER THE CIVIL WAR

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Elisa Austin | James Hamilton | — Platt |
| — Beardson | Mitt R. Barry | J. M. Reburn |
| Fred A. Blanks | — Honje | L. C. Rawlings |
| Arce W. Blanks | G. E. Holloway | R. E. Rawlings |
| Luther Bowman | Joseph Holmes | — Ray |
| W. J. Bowman | Ben Howard | T. C. Reiley |
| H. A. Brinker | E. L. Ingle | — Shovin |
| — Broadway | J. W. Jacobs | D. H. Silver |
| — Butler | W. C. Johnson | Louis M. Swayze |
| J. S. Carlton | H. A. Jolis | F. A. Stafford |
| J. W. Carlton | George Knight | J. W. Stephens |
| Nick Casper | G. L. Kouns | T. C. Sweeney |
| E. G. Carier | Alex Lamont | Jerry Sullivan |
| H. M. Carier | — Laniel | Ben F. Tatum |
| Stoughten Cooley | — Laniel | J. M. Tindall |
| E. V. Cooley | N. Lewis | — Trindad |
| — Comeaux | Pred Lindsay | Jeff Tracclair |
| Ellas S. Coyer | A. S. McLaughlin | J. C. Van Hook |
| — Dehart | — Nicholson | H. L. Watt |
| L. DeLhoussaye | — Marable | William Wenzell |
| Frank Dozier | Marcus Lafayette Meredith | George L. White |
| James Edmond | — Miller | — Whyte |
| Eugene Elliot | E. D. Montgomery | Harry M. Williams |
| A. W. Faulkner | John Earnest Morris | — Wilson |
| J. Furgerson | J. R. Jull | M. W. Wood |
| John Greenough | L. H. Patterson | A. H. Work |
| | E. R. Perry | C. F. Work |

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The Winners!



Pensacola Show

Bro Clay was awarded 2nd in class at the Pensacola show.
Congratulations, Clay!



Blast from the Past

by Terry & Merideth Trovato



Drive Thru History May 2001

The EMC vehicles lined up at the Vicksburg Military Park draw a lot of attention during the annual Drive Through History event 16 years ago in 2001.

From the Passenger Seat

By Donna Durning



In preparation for the Drive Thru History, Charlie and I made a couple of trips between Florence and Hattiesburg to check out the route and make note of the landmarks. We had a great time, and we made it back in one piece both times!

In thinking about the Drive Thru History, I thought it would be interesting to learn some actual history of the towns we would be passing through. I started researching and found a wealth of information! The tidbits of information about how the area was settled was absolutely fascinating. I prepared a document to pass out to the participants. For those of you who weren't able to participate in the DTH, I will be sharing some of the history in upcoming issues of *From the Passenger Seat*. This month, we'll look at the towns of Florence and Star. Next month we will take a look at Braxton and D'Lo

Florence

In the early 1820's **the Steen family of South Carolina** began a journey to settle in the **new state of Mississippi**. Mr. and Mrs. Steen and their four sons made their way through Tennessee where they spent a year making a crop so they could have a food supply. The Steens awoke one morning to find that one of their mules was missing. Mr. Steen went back to look for the mule while Mrs. Steen and the boys continued on their journey. No one ever saw Mr. Steen or the mule again. According to legend, an Indian war party arrived at a nearby camp a few days later with a fine mule!

Mrs. Steen and her sons continued on to Mississippi without incident and settled in Rankin County near the present site of Florence. Since they were the first settlers, the community became known as **Steen's Creek**.



I captured this image at Deck the Yard Garden Center in Florence. It made me think of those early days when the area was being settled. I call this photo, "Long Day on the Trail". I can only imagine some of the long days the early settlers endured.

The next settler in Steen's Creek was **John B. Lewis**. He was the first postmaster and store keeper in Steen's Creek. He ran a grocery store (a saloon as it was known in those days) and a race track. As a result Steen's Creek became a Saturday afternoon resort where men would gather to drink, bet on horse races and have fights. **Sam Ellis** was the next settler and he eventually bought and ran the grocery and race track.

In 1924 **the Steen's Creek Baptist Church** was organized in a small log house on the plantation of Silas Steen. The church is still in existence and is called the **First Baptist Church of Florence**. In 1878 a Methodist church was organized and a building was constructed in 1879 which served the congregation until the present building was built in 1900. Today it is known as **Marvin Methodist Church**.

The first school house was built in 1855. The school principal was **Henry Whitfield** who later became governor of Mississippi.

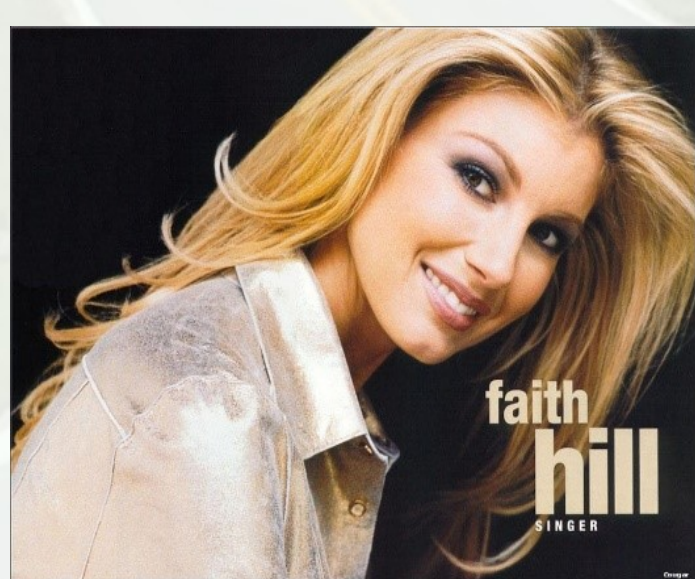
How did Florence get it's name?

In 1900 the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad built a line from Jackson to Gulfport which ran through Steen's Creek. This is when **W. Ellis, Sr., son of Sam Ellis**, took the opportunity to change the name of the town. He offered to donate the land on which the depot would be built if the railroad would **name the depot after his wife, Florence**. **The railroad agreed and Steen's Creek became Florence.**

Star

Star was founded in July 1900 as a train stop when the Gulf and Ship Island RR (later becoming the Illinois Central and now the Canadian National RR) passed through. It had a bank, hotel, car dealership, numerous stores, and a school. Its prosperity suffered as people began to leave the rural areas to move to the city.

The school was scheduled to open for the 1921-22 school year but did not open until after Christmas that year. Up until that time the elementary students attended school at **Wesleyanna Methodist Church** and the high school age students went to **Star Baptist Church**.



Star is the hometown of Grammy award winning country music superstar **Faith Hill**. Audrey Faith Perry was adopted by Ted and Edna Perry and raised in Star, Mississippi.

Upcoming Events

English Motoring Club 2017 Calendar

May 28, 2017—Oxford Euro Fest, Details Mike Marsh

June 17, 2017 – EMC Tech Session / Brandon MS - Details: Keith / Pat Anderson (601) - 829 - 2573.

July 15, 2017 – EMC Lotus Weekend / Braxton MS - Details: Mike / Alice Glore (504) 231 – 5801.

August 12, 2017 – EMC Tech Session / Brandon MS - Details: David / Jo Ann Bailey (601) 992 – 8566.

September 15 - 16, 2017 – EMC Brits on the Bluff / Natchez MS - Details: John Turbeville (601) 940 – 5288, Gene Johnston (601) 201 – 0801.

October 7 - Renaissance Euro Fest , Details Mike Marsh

November 4, 2017 – EMC Tech Session / Ridgeland MS - Details: Gene / Martha Johnston (601) 607 – 7021.

December 2, 2017– EMC / DSARC Christmas Party / Location to be determined